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**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. A-68556/RFT/JJD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*In re* application of:

Philip S. Bernard et al. ) Examiner: unknown  
Serial No. 09/770,770 ) Group Art Unit: unknown  
Filed: January 25, 2001 )  
For: SIMULTANEOUS SCREENING )  
AND IDENTIFICATION OF SEQUENCE )  
ALTERATIONS FROM AMPLIFIED )  
TARGET )

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on May 25, 2001.

Signed: Jere Valles

Jere Valles

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is submitted to claim priority to a previously filed provisional application. It is submitted within 4 months of filing the nonprovisional application and within 16 months from the filing date of the provisional application, as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(5). While Applicants believe that no fees are due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or other relief as may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order No. A-68556/RFT/JJD).

Please enter the following amendments.